

Message Text

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NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR GRAIN PURCHASES

REF: MOSCOW 13954

FOR UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON FROM DENNIS WOOD

1. AS YOU KNOW, THE USSR HAS CONTINUED TO PURCHASE GRAIN DURING THE LAST WEEK, REPORTEDLY ABOUT 3 MILLION TONS. IF CONFIRMED, THESE PURCHASES WOULD RAISE TOTAL SOVIET PURCHASES TO 20 MILLION TONS. THE CIA ESTIMATES THAT THIS STILL LEAVES THE USSR ABOUT 25 MILLION TONS BELOW REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS FISCAL YEAR, EVEN ALLOWING FOR SUBSTANTIAL STOCK DRAWDOWNS. USDA ESTIMATES THAT THIS LEAVES THE USSR WITH ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF ONLY ABOUT 10 MILLION TONS. ON THE BASIS OF EITHER ESTIMATE, YOUR CONCLUSION IN PARAGRAPH 1 (A) OF REFTEL APPEARS TO BE

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VALID.

2. USSR GRAIN PURCHASES BY TYPE AND SUPPLIER AS OF
SEPTEMBER 29, 1975 AS REPORTED BY THE CIA OCTOBER 1 ARE
AS FOLLOWS:

(THOUSAND TONS)

TOTAL GRAIN, BY TYPE 20,250 (FOOTNOTE 1)

WHEAT. 11,850
CORN.. 5,253
BARLEY 1,600
OATS.. 101
RYE... 60
TYPE
UNKNOWN 1,386

TOTAL GRAIN, BY SUPPLIER 20,250

UNITED STATES (FOOTNOTE 2) 10,400

WHEAT (FOOTNOTE 3) 4,400
CORN (FOOTNOTE 4) 4,900
BARLEY (FOOTNOTE 5) 1,100

CANADA 4,121

WHEAT 3,810
BARLEY 200
OATS 51
RYE (FOOTNOTE 6) 60

ARGENTINA 1,845

WHEAT 1,595
CORN 250

AUSTRALIA 1,100

WHEAT 1,100
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FRANCE (FOOTNOTE 6) 700

WHEAT 400
BARLEY 300

WEST GERMANY (FOOTNOTE 6) .. 500

WHEAT 500

ITALY (FOOTNOTE 6) 98

WHEAT 45

CORN 53

BRAZIL 50

CORN 50

OPTIONAL ORIGIN 50

OATS 50

SUPPLIER UNKNOWN 1,386

FOOTNOTES:

1. THE GRAND TOTAL OF 20,250,000 TONS IS CONFIRMED. IT INCLUDES 1,386,000 TONS UNDIFFERENTIATED AS TO SUPPLIER AND GRAIN. THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF ANOTHER 1,358,000 TONS REMAINS UNKNOWN.

2. MOST US CONTRACTS INCLUDE A CLAUSE SPECIFYING THAT COUNTRY OF ORIGIN IS AT SELLER'S OPTION.

3. INCLUDING 200,000 TONS CONTRACTED FOR IN 1974 BUT NOT YET DELIVERED.

4. INCLUDING 400,000 TONS CONTRACTED FOR IN 1974 BUT NOT YET DELIVERED.

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5. PROBABLY WILL BE SWITCHED TO EQUAL AMOUNT OF CORN AT SELLER'S OPTION.

6. CIA-ESTIMATED ORIGINS FOR THE 1,358,000 TONS CITED IN FOOTNOTE 1. INGERSOLL

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